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CONGRESS IMPASSE BALKS PRESIDENT

Harding Not Expected to Find Matters Improved When He Returns

POLITICAL SYSTEM FAILS

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
 Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger
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 Washington, March 16.—President Harding, on his return here Saturday, will find the situation unimproved. He went away in disgust at the mess in the House over the bonus. So-called leaders of the chamber were running to him every day for advice and then either paying no attention to what he said or misrepresenting it on the Hill.
 Instead of co-operating its members of one party, the Congressmen were bent upon unloading on the Executive the burden of defeating bonus legislation. Tempers were getting bad, and Mr. Harding went away to escape it all. But the process went on all the time he was in Florida. Messengers interrupted his vacation to consult him, only to ignore his advice when they got back to Washington.

And the irritation developing between Congress and the Executive broke out against Secretary Mellon and Comptroller Cressinger, who were speaking in the President's absence. It is now spread now to members of Congress themselves. The bonus advocates are as angry at Speaker Gillett as they are at Mr. Mellon and Mr. Cressinger. Talk of ousting the Speaker need not be taken seriously, but it shows how raw are the nerves on the Hill after the long and ineffectual fight over the bonus bill.

Tariff Problem Unsolved
 On the tariff there is the same confusion as on the bonus. Congress was called together in special session last April to do two things—reform the taxes and the tariff. Almost a year has passed and not only is there no tariff bill, but there is no tariff policy. The Senate Finance Committee is in a tangle.

Disagreements among the members have been irritating. Changes of mind have been frequent. One Senator on the committee has given particular grievance to his associates. The greatest difficulty has come over the American valuation plan. No one knows how this scheme will work and American business is divided over it.
 It was decided recently by a majority of one to modify the scheme of American valuation. This seemed like progress, as the knottiest question was at least disposed of in committee. A few days later one of the Senators who had voted for the plan changed his mind and everything was up in the air once more.

Can't Improve Matters
 Mr. Harding's return here will make little difference. Congress does not follow his leadership. It is slowly invading what has recently been regarded as the province of the Executive without being able to use effectively the power which it is taking to itself.
 There is a disposition to blame the confusion that exists here upon the lack of firmness in the President himself. Another Roosevelt or another Wilson, it is said, would be able to drive Congress into effective action. But that criticism overlooks the extent to which party authority has broken down.

It is not enough for a Congressman to be a good Republican now to be re-elected. He has to satisfy organized minorities in his district. He has to please the Farm Bureau Federation or the American Legion. The methods which put through the prohibition amendment and the woman's suffrage amendment to the Constitution have become controlling factors in American public life.

Harding a Harmonizer
 The authority which was once wielded by parties is now shared by organized minorities which have the balance of power in Congress districts. The unhappy congressman is ordered to go one way by his party and another by an organized minority which has it in its power to prevent his re-election.
 Mr. Harding would accomplish nothing by being firmer than he is. He has a difficult role to play that of harmonizer and compromiser. He is doing it as well as any man could. Probably he is the best kind of President the country could have in the circumstances.
 The country is, apparently, working toward some profound changes in the organization of parties and in the balance of power between the branches of the Government here. It is impossible to see just what these will be except that Congress through its control of taxation and credit is assuming a new importance in the scheme of things, now that taxes are high and the voters are deeply concerned in their incidence.
 The old organization has broken down and no new organization has been built up to take its place. While this uncertainty lasts, tempers will be on edge. The President will often be tempted to seek relief by going away to Florida or Alaska. But his presence or absence will make little difference in the confusion in Congress.

PUNISH FRENCH DIPLOMAT

Berthelot Retired for Ten Years for Bank of China Activities
 Paris, March 16.—(By A. P.)—Philippe J. L. Berthelot, former secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, today was placed on the diplomatic retired list for ten years in consequence of his activities while secretary general in the affairs of the Banque Industrielle de Chine, which suspended last summer. M. Berthelot's brother, Senator Andre Berthelot, was one of the principals in the bank.
 The Ambassador's Court, before which M. Berthelot was tried, rendered the opinion that in sending certain telegrams during the crisis in the bank's affairs he had "engaged the responsibility of France in the affairs of a private concern." Final action in the case was by the Cabinet council.

GEDDES TO STUDY WEST

British Envoy Will Extend His Knowledge of America
 Los Angeles, Calif., March 16.—(By A. P.)—Contact with newspapers of the West, in the belief that they are indicative of the public sentiment of their section, was one of the objectives of Sir Auckland Geddes, British Ambassador to the United States, in his visit to the Coast States. He said last night shortly after his arrival from the East.
 "I have never been here before and I did not feel that I could properly know America or competently represent my country in America until I had seen the great West," he said.
 "I am beginning to realize how vital that knowledge is, for we can no longer think of America as New York and Washington."

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 So exquisitely made that it "just moulds onto the hand"—of French kidskin so soft that it "crushes" beautifully at the wrist.
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 Tweeds, Poretts, Jerseys, English Plaids, in a wide variety of attractive modes. The sports frocks predominate, but there are plenty of styles suitable for dress occasions. Frocks ordinarily \$25.00, for tomorrow only at \$15.00. Values really unusual. **15.00**

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 This machine is indeed different. Come to our store and see it or phone us to bring one to your home for a demonstration. Even the paying will be made pleasant, if you decide to purchase.
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 His idea was that some printer, figuring in a hurry, would make a mistake and put in a bid for less than the job should properly cost.
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 If your printing builds sales for you, you can afford to pay the right price for getting it done.
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